

Scottish Justices' Association

Adjourned Annual General Meeting

Date 15 March 2014

Time 12:30 p.m.

Place The Newton Hotel, Nairn, IV12 4RX

Minutes

(Executive Members shown in bold)		
Present:	Allan Clasper, Chairman (GH&I)	Robin White, Vice-Chairman (TC&F)
	Keith Parkes, Secretary (TC&F)	John Hutchison (GH&I)
	John Logie (GH&I)	Bob Mitchell (L&B)
	Susan Kirkwood (GH&I)	Pamela Pack (GH&I)
	Tony Watts (GH&I)	F R Matheson (GH&I)
	Alistair Grant (GH&I)	Leslie Moffat (GH&I)
	Norman Anderson (GH&I)	John Cameron (GH&I)
	Mike Pickhall (GH&I)	Ian Rhind (GH&I)
	Sheila Goodall (GH&I)	Simon Fraser (GH&I)
	Anne Campbell (GH&I)	Alex Anderson (GH&I)
	Maureen Melvin (GH&I)	
Apologies:	Stewart Daniels (G&S)	Stuart Fair, Treasurer (TC&F)
	Johan Findlay (SSD&G)	Tom Finnigan (NS)
	Fraser Gillies (NS)	David Hamilton (L&B)
	Gordon Hunter (SSD&G)	John Lawless (G&S)
	Marella O'Neill (NS)	Mike Samphier (L&B)

	<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Action</u>
1.	<p>Welcome</p> <p>The Chairman welcomed everyone to the adjourned Annual General Meeting (AGM) and thanked everyone attending. He explained that the AGM had originally been called in October 2013 in Edinburgh but as less than 20 members had been present, the AGM was declared not quorate.</p> <p>Following a suggestion that the AGM should be incorporated into a Sherifffdom training event, the SJA Executive decided to request the training committee of the GH&I Sherifffdom to allow the adjourned AGM to be held in Nairn today. The Chairman explained that by holding the AGM at a training event it was hoped that not only would it ensure a quorum but also that it would allow the wider membership to meet the members of SJA Executive. The chairman then introduced the 6 members of the Executive that were present.</p>	
2.	<p>Confirmation of Attendance</p> <p>The Vice-Chairman and Secretary confirmed that there were 21 members present; therefore the meeting was quorate.</p>	

3.	<p>Approval of the Minutes of the AGM held on 27 October 2012</p> <p>The minutes of the AGM held in Edinburgh on 27 October 2012 were approved without comment.</p> <p>Proposer: Susan Kirkwood Seconder: Bob Mitchell</p>	
4.	<p>Annual Report of the Executive</p> <p>The Chairman expressed disappointment that the Annual Report had not contained any reports from either the Judicial Council or the SJA/Scottish Courts Service (SCS) liaison meetings despite members of the SJA Executive having attended these meetings. He further stated that the Executive would ensure that future Annual Reports would contain all relevant reports. The Annual Report was then accepted by all those present without further comment.</p>	Chairman
5.	<p>Approval of Accounts of the Association</p> <p>In the absence of the Treasurer, the Chairman had prior to the AGM circulated copies of the Financial Statements for the SJA for the year ending 31 March 2013 to those members present.</p> <p>John Logie drew attention to the reducing grant from the Scottish Government (SG) and asked whether such reductions would continue. The Chairman replied that while the Association was seen to have a sizeable reserve, he anticipated that the SG would continue to reduce the grant but that he believed that the SG recognized the need for the continuing existence of the SJA not least as a focus for the views of the members of the SJA in providing responses to consultations. The Secretary added that given the relatively low number of JPs in Scotland, the possible alternative method of generating income for the SJA by charging its members an annual membership fee, as is done by the Magistrates' Association in England and Wales, was not considered to be viable.</p> <p>The accounts were then approved without further comment.</p> <p>Proposer: John Logie Seconder: John Hutchison</p>	
6.	<p>Appointment of an Independent Examiner for Accounts</p> <p>The meeting considered and agreed without dissent the proposal to reappoint Campbell Dallas, Chartered Accountants in Renfrew as the independent examiner for the Association's accounts.</p> <p>Proposer: Pamela Pack Seconder: Bob Mitchell</p>	
7.	<p>Amendments to the Constitution</p> <p>a. Resolution 1 At Appendix A to the Constitution, where 'postal mail' is mentioned, that be changed to 'postal or electronic mail'.</p> <p>Resolution 1 was passed by all those present without dissent.</p>	

	<p>Proposer: John Hutchison Seconder: Sheila Goodall</p> <p>b. Resolution 2</p> <p>At paragraph 6a of the Constitution, delete 'within the month of September or October'.</p> <p>There followed a brief discussion if this could lead to an AGM not being held in a calendar year or being held too long after the end of the financial year. The Secretary stated that the Executive would consider any suggestions from members to ensure that AGMs were held in a timely fashion and would, if necessary, place any proposed changes to the Constitution on the Agenda of a future AGM.</p> <p>Resolution 2 was then passed by all those present without dissent.</p> <p>Proposer: John Hutchison Seconder: Susan Kirkwood</p>	
8.	<p>Welcome to the new Executive Committee from the Chairman</p> <p>The chairman welcomed the new Executive Committee.</p>	